

# Section Meetings

**Detroit, December 13, 1988** — The topic discussed at the Detroit Section's December meeting was how to improve the reliability of broadband local area networks (LANs). Dan Carnicom, Clover Electronics, Inc., gave an overview of the current status of broadband LANs and spoke about the role his company plays in their design, installation, and testing.

Jim Duffy, Clover Electronics, talked about client-based needs, the first consideration of design. Mike Neasbe, Clover Electronics, presented a technical paper on designing broadband LANs for reliability. Following the presentation, there was an active question-and-answer session. Twenty people attended the meeting held at Clover's Novi, Mich., plant. — Leonard W. Eden (Secretary/Treasurer), John F. X. Browne & Assoc.

**Detroit, January 10, 1989** — The Eastman Kodak liquid crystal LC500 video projector was explained and demonstrated at the Detroit Section's January meeting. Chris Vournakis, Eastman Kodak Co., presented a technical paper on the LC500. He noted that this projector represents a breakthrough in video technology. It weighs 13 lb and is small enough to fit under an airplane seat. When connected to a VCR, it fills a niche once occupied by the 16mm film projector for image projection in a classroom or small auditorium. The LC500 is also compatible with Kodak's video graphics system or a computer. The presentation was supplemented with prerecorded videotape segments fed into the LC500. Thirty-six people attended the meeting at Kodak's Birmingham, Mich., building. — Leonard W. Eden (Secretary/Treasurer), John F. X. Browne & Assoc.

**Hollywood, December 15, 1988** — The Hollywood Section's traditional holiday meeting was held at the Disney Theater in Burbank. An enthusiastic crowd of 150 people gathered to see the Disney classic, *101 Dalmations*. The animated feature, released in 1961, was the first film to incorporate the Xerox process into animation. Even with this technological advance, 300 animators worked for three years to produce the film. — Michael V. Chewey (Secretary/Treasurer), Bremson Data Systems.

**Houston, January 11, 1989** — Surveying, designing, and setting up remotes, particularly those used to broadcast the Olympics in Seoul, was discussed at the Houston Section's January meeting. Fifty people attended the meeting which was held at the KPRC-TV station. Charles Spicer, NBC, discussed the background

of the television coverage of the 1988 Olympics. He described how virtually every remote truck in the country, a total of 41, was loaded onto one cargo ship and sent across the Pacific. Since this was the first Olympics to be covered in stereo audio, there were many problems associated with wiring for separate monaural and stereo channels. Spicer demonstrated and explained the switching equipment used. A video router provided more than 180,000 crosspoints, twice the number presently used by NBC in their New York center.

Spicer noted that NBC Engineering is now reviewing their Korean operation in preparation for the 1992 Olympics in Spain. The network will have new problems to handle in Spain, namely the difference in power sources and a different local video standard. — Robert Musburger (Secretary/Treasurer), University of Houston.

**Nashville, January 24, 1989** — At the January meeting of the Nashville Section, attended by 43 people, Dancy Jones, State of Tennessee Film, Entertainment and Music Commission, spoke about marketing Tennessee to the film and video production industry. She discussed the purpose of the commission and the work it has been doing to promote film and video production in Tennessee. Two videotapes were shown, followed by a question-and-answer session.

Jim Malone, Motion Picture Labs, spoke about minimizing audio generation loss in video production. He explained double system audio in video production and discussed different techniques for preserving audio quality by eliminating multiple generations. Examples of hi-fi VHS videotape were played. A question-and-answer session followed the presentation. Mike Duncan led the group on a tour of Post Masters' editing and production site. — Gene Parker (Secretary/Treasurer), WKRN-TV.

**Ohio, January 25, 1989** — Fifty-four people attended a joint meeting of the SBE and the SMPTE Ohio Section at the WJW-TV station. Patrick Gallagher, ADC Telecommunications, spoke about current cable management technology. Using slides to illustrate his points, Gallagher explained the various types of cable terminations in use today. It was apparent that the old solder block and crimp termination methods can be replaced with the new insulation displacement termination method, which offers quick connection of both solid and stranded wire in 20, 22, and 24 AWG sizes. Using a split cylinder to hold the wires allows for multiple wires on

the same terminal and multiple reinsertion of wires (over 200 times). While discussing the design of patch bays, Gallagher pointed out the importance of considering delay compensation into the patch bays. He gave insight into the advantages of cross-connect systems that allow equipment racks to be uncluttered. Gallagher concluded his presentation with an explanation of the latest developments in fiber distribution panels and RGB patch panels. — Kent A. Cawthorne (Secretary/Treasurer), Broadcast Video Corp.

**Ottawa, October 26, 1988** — Doug Spears, Sony of Canada, Ltd., presented a status report on the D-2 format at the October meeting of the Ottawa Section. He made comparisons between Type-C, D-1, and D-2 formats and showed the easy integration of the latter into existing analog systems. Other favorable features such as high picture quality, error correction and concealment, and small size were noted by the audience. A short program, called "D-2 Diner," was shown to demonstrate the technology. Thirty members and guests attended this meeting, which was held in the Broadcasting Service Studio of the House of Commons. — John A. Howard (Secretary/Treasurer), House of Commons.

**Ottawa, December 7, 1988** — Richard Marquis, Marc Productions, Ltd., presented a businessman's point of view on operating a commercial facility at the December meeting of the Ottawa Section. In his paper, "Capital Procurements in a Dynamic Technological Environment," he outlined such factors as levels of quality and investment that aid in evaluating capital budgets. He explained that a company will try to get the highest return possible on a low investment, but one which is still acceptable to its customers. Marquis said that such an investment must be determined over a period of time so that the commercial operation may recover its costs and at the same time allow for the introduction of new technology.

The presentation was followed by a tour of Marc Productions, an audio/video company that contains a 40X60-ft studio, 16 and 24-track sound studios, and a complete video editing site. Twenty-five members and guests attended this meeting. — John A. Howard (Secretary/Treasurer), House of Commons.

**Rochester, November 15, 1988** — Gary Borton, Eastman Kodak Co., presented a paper called, "The Future of Film in the Era of HDTV" at the Rochester Section's November meeting. The meeting, held at Eastman Kodak in Rochester, was attended by 35 members and guests. Borton pointed out that HDTV has been touted as a replacement for motion pictures, although this has not come to pass. He said that motion pictures are not just alive,

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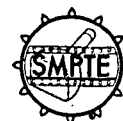
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they are stronger than ever. He discussed the advantages of 35mm film, including resolution, sensitivity, and portability. Borton concluded that HDTV will have a sweeping impact on television and broadcasting, but movies will continue to have a very important role as a production medium for television programming. Thirty-five members and guests attended the meeting. — Paul Kanerva (Program Chair), Eastman Kodak Co.

**Rochester, December 13, 1988** — At their December meeting, the Rochester Section was given a tour of PCI's production and post-production site. The 40 people attending saw studio control equipment and PCI's D-2 composite digital recording capabilities. Ted Hummel, PCI, explained his philosophy for success in the production and post-production business. — Paul Kanerva (Program Chair), Eastman Kodak Co.

**Rochester, January 17, 1989** — The D-1 and D-2 digital VTR formats were discussed at the Rochester Section's January meeting. Rex Ferbrache, Tektronix, explained the basics and gave an in-depth look at the rationale and techniques of each. He demonstrated some current test procedures and test equipment, and provided insight into possible future developments. The meeting, held in Kodak's Little Theater, was attended by 25 people. — Paul Kato (Secretary/Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co.

**Rocky Mountain, January 19, 1989** — Bill Carpenter, Ampex Video Systems, gave an informative and detailed look at digital formats, with special emphasis on D-2. He stressed that D-2 was designed to be a "rugged format" and, therefore, the specifications were developed to support broadcasters and post-production houses. The major features of the format — including azimuth recording, the fact that guard bands are not needed, and the ability to record audio at the end of video tracks — were discussed in depth. Carpenter ended his presentation with a brief look at two products that incorporate the D-2 format. The meeting concluded with a tour of Ampex and a demonstration of a digital recorder. Forty-two people attended this meeting at Ampex Video Systems Div. in Golden, Colo. — Joan M. Aiello (Secretary/Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co.

**San Francisco, January 18, 1989** — Stereo audio for television was discussed from two perspectives at the San Francisco Section's January meeting. The meeting was held at KQED-TV station and was attended by 65 people. Elizabeth Cohen, of Charles Salter and Associates, discussed the latest techniques to create

stereo perspective and imaging. Dr. Cohen feels that stereo sound should communicate the environment of the visual image. She cautioned against "shrinking sound to the small size of a television screen" and recommended the practice of embracing auditory space. She believes that stereo sound for television needs to be sold to the consumer, adding that if automobile sales can be improved by featuring stereo sound, it should be possible to sell television sets with stereo sound.

Robert Orban, Orban Associates, approached the issue from the hardware point of view. Orban is a pioneer in the design and manufacture of broadcast audio processing equipment. With measuring and processing techniques rife with controversy, Orban provided an overview of techniques and pitfalls in stereo broadcasting. A question-and-answer session followed each speaker's presentation. — Vernon L. Kipping (Secretary/Treasurer), consultant.

**Toronto, January 10, 1989** — The third consecutive live satellite telecast linking Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, and parts of western Canada was shown at the Toronto Section's January meeting. The link was made via Anik D-1, Channel 2B (V); the audio was 6.8 MHz. Special telephone lines were set up at all sites so viewers could query any of the three speakers. Gordon Ballantyne fielded and referred questions. Fred Lemmin commented on the fact that the first Canadian SMPTE president, Harold Eady, and the present (and second Canadian) president of the Society, Maurice French, were both in the audience. Eady and French both spoke briefly at the beginning of the telecast.

The formal program began with an illustrated capsule description of the SMPTE, its aims, and the benefits of membership. Professor William F. Schreiber, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, presented a paper "The Politics of Change." He called it, Mission HDTV — Problems and Solutions. He rated present home television reception as deplorable, because of receiver inadequacies and transmission defects. He said he expects HDTV to be introduced to the North American market in 1990 and elaborated on the effect on the economy. He perceived four possibilities for the introduction of HDTV: the NHK/MUSE route; the receiver-compatible EDTV route; the bandwidth-efficient, channel-compatible route; or two-stage introduction of ATV for terrestrial broadcasting. He examined the pros and cons of each and concluded that the fourth possibility was the most logical and least risky.

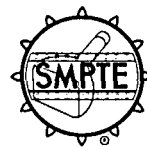
"Trends in TV Standards — A Manufacturer's Perspective" was delivered by Strath Goodship, Leitch Video. Goodship explained how standards are classified and selected. He elaborated on the problems of the middle manufacturer and how he can cope. Some examples of these prob-

lems: Is component processing required? Is there a need to serve NTSC and PAL markets? Is it cost-effective to make a composite product? Is it cost-effective to use component processing? He confirmed that the middle manufacturer's emphasis is on compatibility, particularly now when the industry is in an irresolute state. No Risk-Takers Need Apply is the motto, Goodship said.

Christian Tremblay, Central Dynamics Ltd., delivered a paper called, "An Introduction to an ENTSC Codec." He showed a conventional NTSC teleproduction, characterized such defects as cross color and cross luminance, and explained how digital and spatial projection of 30 NTSC spectrum cleared up both problems. He emphasized the one-dimensional spectrum of the NTSC signal. After illustrating the evolution of teleproduction technology, he moved on to a three-dimensional spectrum of the NTSC signal. The viewers were amazed at the purity of the image after it had been subjected to advanced digital filtering. A demonstration of the hardware led into a stimulating question-and-answer session.

Global Television Network provided the equipment for the satellite transmission and the site for the meeting. The January meeting was attended by 214 people. — Stephen B. Cook (Secretary/Treasurer), consultant.

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